

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Original) An apparatus for treating water having an MF or UF membrane filter providing pretreatment of feed water for a downstream reverse osmosis unit wherein the reverse osmosis unit has spacers between 15 and 25 mil (381 and 635 microns) thick.

3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the spacers are between 17 and 22 mil (431.8 and 558.8 microns) thick.

4. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 2 or 3 wherein the MF or UF membrane filter is a suction driven immersed membrane filter.

5. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 2 or 3 wherein the reverse osmosis unit is a spiral wound module.

6. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 2 or 3 used to desalinate salt water.

7. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 2 or 3 wherein the water is salt water.

8. (New) The apparatus of claim 2 further comprising an intake between an ocean and the MF or UF membrane filter.